



THE CENTRAL CHIMES

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June 2024

Pastor's Pondering

It was on May 28, 1970, that my parents got married. 54 years have passed since they covenanted before God and each other to join together in holy marriage. That is quite an accomplishment if you ask me! It has taken work, intentionality, laughter, and daily deciding to choose each other.

In the span of 54 years, I know there have been moments of great joy and great frustration. In the span of 54 years, there have been tears and sadness as well as great joy and celebration. It hasn't, however always been easy over the last 54 years for them. Despite the hard times, I am grateful for their love and example they have set not only for me but for my sisters and countless others. I guess I am pondering today on their anniversary, how many things they have experienced and the changes they have seen right before their eyes over the course of their marriage up to this point.

In 54 years, there were certain things that they agreed on as well as those things that they disagreed on (some emphatically so). They came to times where they had to talk things through and then move on. They still may have not agreed but they chose to move on. This had to be difficult. It had to be hard to agree to disagree with someone they loved deeply and yet move forward.

We sometimes find my parents struggles to be like our own even in the life of the church. I know that Central has been together for many more than 54 years. I also know that there have been times of great joy as well as great sorrow. I know that there have been times when we have agreed with one another and likewise, times when we've disagreed. In light of our United Methodist General Conference,

Join us for Worship!

Sunday Worship—9:15 a.m.
Sunday school—10:15 a.m.

some agree and some disagree with decisions made for the denomination. We are at a place where we have talked about our disagreements and now as hard as it may be, we need to decide to agree to disagree and move on. We may not all think alike, but the work of God is before us. As we start this new month, my prayer for us at Central United Methodist Church is that we live into our mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. We may not all agree and we can agree to disagree if need be but for the sake of the call of Jesus Christ, we need to be intentional in every way to build one another up as we move forward.

Ephesians 4:29 says, "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen" (NIV).

Continued on page 2

Hospitality Fellowship on Graduation Sunday, June 9

Visit with one another
in the fellowship hall with light snacks
immediately following the service.

All are invited!

*Many thanks to the Hospitality
Committee for this special time!*



Building others up according to their needs, speaking only what is helpful, that it may benefit those who listen: this is our daily challenge as members of the Body Of Christ. I think this sounds like great marriage advice as well. It's worth pondering.

Praying For You,
Pastor Rebecca

Christmas in July Collections Being Sought



The Mathews County Christmas Store hosted by the YMCA/Boys & Girls Club gymnasium, serves over 650 members of our community; with county residents participating in the Christmas store and the Elf Shoppe, which allows children to shop for their parents or guardian. This annual event has been a community wide outpouring of love, commitment and giving at the holidays for our families in need.

There are so many local, regional and commercial organizations that partner with Mathews County Department of Social Services and a dedicated group of volunteers and donors working year-round to make the Christmas Store happen. Central is one of those who so generously support this effort.

Mission and Evangelism is sponsoring a collection now for a **Christmas in July dinner program on July 17**. Central can begin to support this effort right now in the following ways:

>>>You can donate New unwrapped items – toys, bikes, wagons, and ride-on trikes; sweatshirts, sweatpants, fleece for men, women and children; kitchen, housewares & household items; blankets and throws; personal products (soap, shampoo, gift sets); personal care products (hair dryers, shavers, curling irons); small electronics (toasters, coffee makers, toaster ovens, small microwaves, can openers, mixers, small space heaters); small technology products (speakers, headphones, etc).

**Please note used items cannot be accepted. Bring items to Central fellowship hall or call Jimmy or Betty Stewart at 804-725-

3322. Please bring donations by July 17.

>>>You can give monetarily. Any support you can provide is greatly appreciated. Please make check a payable to Central UMC and place "Christmas store" in the memo.

Mission and Evangelism Team



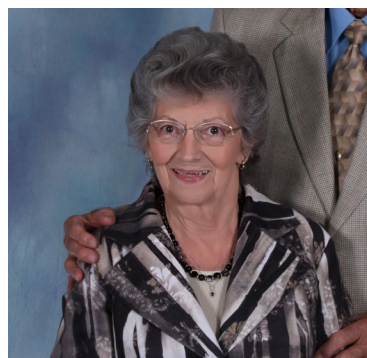
Saturday, June 15 | 7:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Central
Sponsored by Central United Methodist Men

Please Note! Now accepting donations of art prints, paintings, table art, sculptures or any other "artsy" items.

Call Joe Arnold at 973-714-4973 for more information.

United Methodist Women will have baked goods for sale!

Recent fundraisers have supported Hands Across Mathews, Heart Havens, Mathews TRIAD, Avalon Center, Meals on Wheels and the Mathews High School Key Club.



Remembering...
Margaret (Peggy)
Ann Hudgins-Pierce
10/23/1937 -
4/25/2024

Our Deepest Sympathy and Prayers go to the Families of...

- Peggy Pierce
- Joanna Lee-Hudgins Mullis-Nix
- Doris Morris
- Mary Clarke Gayle
- Margaret "Mimi" Ulsaker



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2024 Annual VA Conference

Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson is excited to announce the theme of the 242nd session of the Virginia Annual Conference is A Conference in Three Movements. This theme emerges from the belief that there are three principal movements of the Holy Spirit taking place in the present era of the church:

1. The theological movement from prevenient grace to sanctification. This is the movement of the Holy Spirit in the human heart.
2. The historical movement of Methodism captured in our past, lived in our present, and pointed toward our future. This is the movement of the Holy Spirit in the church.
3. The missional movement from gathered spaces into all the world. This is the movement of the Holy Spirit in community.

These movements build upon each other, intertwining together to demonstrate what has been, what is, and what will be as God continues to move amongst God's people.

The Annual Conference logo is designed to be an embodiment of this powerful theme. The three flames joining as one light are a reminder of the three movements and the connection they share. The placement of words and font selection are meant to evoke an imaginative sense of movement and the constant motion of the Holy Spirit. The color family of reds, yellows, and oranges is meant to offer a sense of fire that is sparking and burning within the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church.

As we prepare to gather in Hampton this June, we hope members of the Annual Conference will begin to consider the role of these three movements in their lives, the lives of their churches, and the lives of the communities we are called to serve. Website: www.umc.org/ac2024/



June 2024

**Hampton Roads
Convention
Center in
Hampton, VA
June 20-22**

United Methodist Men Plan Art Sale

The Central United Methodist Men met on Saturday, May 18. Breakfast for the thirteen members present was provided by Chris Merrill and Kenny Childress, with a little assistance from David Hudgins.



Most of the meeting centered around the upcoming Art Sale. Donations are still coming in and we should be ready to go bright and early on Saturday, June 15, at 7 am. We'll take donations right up to the day before, so it isn't too late. Joe Arnold is our project manager for this event and you can give him a call (973-714-4973) if you have questions or need help getting a donation to us. The Central United Methodist Women will have baked goods for sale, so make plans to come on out and support both groups. Looking forward to seeing everyone there!

After discussing the Art Sale, we voted to donate \$250 to Hands Across Mathews for their back-to-school Backpack Program. We also voted to give \$100 to the Mathews Museum to help with their school kids program.

The Art Sale will be taking the place of our June meeting. Anything that needs our attention can be discussed then. Our next formal breakfast meeting will take place on Saturday, September 21, after our summer break.

Chris Moughon
CUMM President



Car show at Central during May Faire (5/4)-photo by Susan Hill

United Methodist Women Prepares for 3 Rivers Healthy Family Picnic

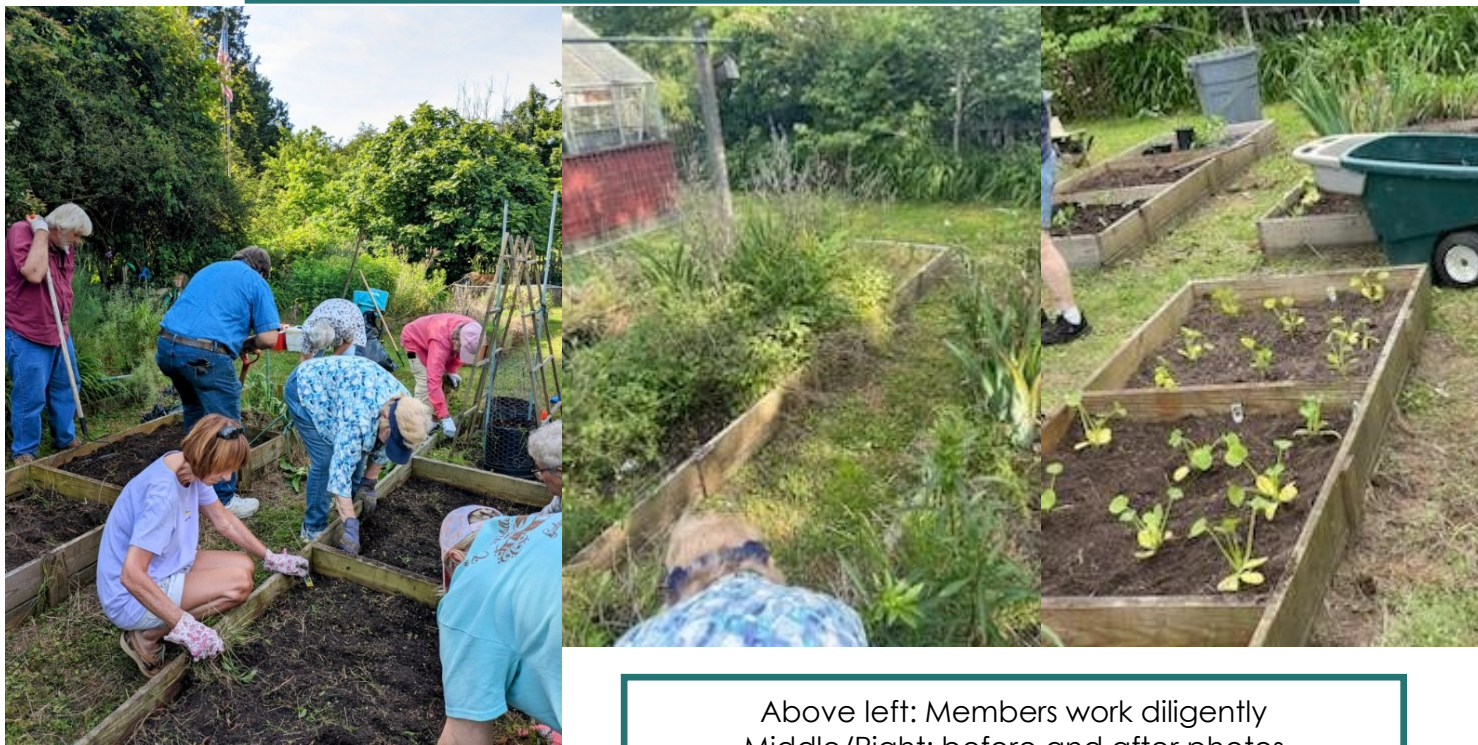
May was a busy month for us and June promises to be the same. We donated \$100.00 to Lillian Moore at Thomas Hunter Middle School to help her achieve her dream of attending a conference at the FCCLA Recognition Chapter in Seattle, Washington. We are encouraging donations to meet the urgent needs of HAM and prepared the donation box. We planned our upcoming picnic for Three Rivers children and their families which will be held at the Witherspoon farm in June. We have two special Church events coming up and we are working on the **bake sale which will be June 15th** in coordination with the United Methodist Men's Art Sale. We continue to explore other fund-raising opportunities and planned visits to our shut-ins.

How grateful I am to be a member of Central United Methodist Church and how grateful I am to be a part of this wonderful group called the Central United Methodist Women. Recently I had the privilege of watching congregation members work together, getting hot, sweaty, and dirty all to provide children and their families a wonderful farm experience and to create a garden for Mike and Louise. We also got to visit them and that was a joy. As I watched everyone working, sweating, swatting bugs and laughing together, you could see we were not just individuals, but a family. We were all united with a purpose – to help others. It was a gift, even though I am not a fan of dirt or sweat, to see that the Christian spirit of giving and positivity is alive and well within Central United Methodist Church.

Nancy Goldman
CUMW President



Below: Central's UM Women with the Mission and Evangelism team and others gathered at the Witherspoon farm to prepare for the 3 Rivers Healthy Family's picnic that will be held there in June.
Photos by Jamie Hall



Above left: Members work diligently
Middle/Right: before and after photos
of a job well done!

Creation Care

Rethink! We used to think of the earth's benefits as endless. Earth is telling us we need to think again. If we want our children and grands to live well, we need to support a more sustainable way of being now. Remember you are a caretaker. Let that sacred charge be your guide. Below are three suggestions to try for May and June.



Turn Off Your Electronics

If you're going to be away from your computer or other appliance for more than an hour, turn it off as you leave the room. Some people mistakenly think it takes a giant burst of energy to power up a television, computer, etc so they leave these electronics on continuously. However, even on an "energy-saver" setting, they waste much more energy when it's on all day than if you *really* turn it off.



Eliminate "Phantom Load"



Action: Many electronics use electricity even when they're turned off—so your best bet is to unplug electronic devices and appliances when they're

not in use for long periods. (Or, plug your TV and accessories into one power strip and switch off the whole strip to eliminate this "phantom load. "

Why: At least five percent of the average household's monthly utility bill goes towards powering devices that are turned off. TVs, DVD players, computers, printers, and cell phone chargers are just some of the devices that leak power even when they aren't on—in fact, a quarter of the energy used by your TV each year is consumed when the TV is off.

Wash Clothes in Cold Water

Action: Turn the knob on your washing machine to "cold/cold" today, and leave it there.

Why: With modern washing machines and detergents, washing your clothes



in cold water gets them just as clean as washing in hot water, but it uses half the energy.

These 3 tips help your earth and can save you money.

Michael Cannon

Creation Care Team



Mission Focus for June:

United Methodist Family Services

United Methodist Family Services is a non-profit agency that provides a comprehensive list of programs for at-risk youths and parents. These programs include foster care, adoption or residential treatment, as well as private day school for specialized care.



UMFS is not just for kids: they are a champion for children, teens, families and communities! They strive to do whatever takes to help young people overcome seemingly overwhelming odds and create bright futures for themselves. UMFS assists the child or teen by empowering the entire family to become stable, self-sufficient, and caring members of their community.

They always start with the individual's strengths, having found that it is much more effective to build on strengths than by focusing on deficit. By doing so, the staff of UMFS hopes to promote a positive social change in the life of every child they touch.

As one individual said, "Every child, regardless of circumstance, deserves the chance to succeed; UMFS welcomed them with open arms."

If you would like to make a monetary contribution, please make your check payable to Central UMC and write, "UMFS" on the memo line.

Website is www.umfs.org

Monthly mission focus in adopted by the Administrative Council.

Mission and Evangelism

At the May 15 meeting we welcomed a new member, Ruth Ann Hudson, to our committee. We are certainly glad to have her join us. Any other members of the congregation who would like to be a part of our team would also be welcomed!

The following items were discussed at the May meeting:

Serenity Garden



Work on the Garden has been postponed until certain conditions have been approved by the Board of Trustees. They include

assurance that we do not violate the space Miss Utility marked for Dominion Power, that the garden would not pose additional work for the lawn maintenance company, and that it would be financially supported only by the M&E committee or by voluntary contributions.

The committee approved a drafted letter and it was placed in the Trustee mail. Once approval has been granted, we will coordinate with Richard Moughon for a date when he can till the area and work can begin.

Want to play in the dirt? Come join us! Volunteers to help make the garden a reality would be greatly appreciated.

Christmas in July

Betty briefed us on plans for a Christmas in July potluck dinner. It is set for July 17 at 5:30. Our committee will provide the turkey, stuffing, gravy and beverages. She has a Christmas tree and Judy and Nancy will be in charge of decorating it. I will handle publicity and Gloria, Ruth Ann, and Betty will do the cooking (so you know it will be good). The UMW will be asked to help set up tables for the meal and John Lee and Merle will be asked to lead us in caroling.



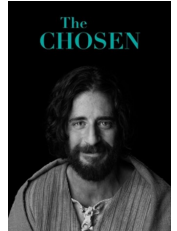
Gifts for the Christmas Store will be collected and held at the church until they are transported to Social Services. For more information on this, see page 2.

Planting with a Purpose

We decided that we would participate with the UMW project of helping the Witherspoons get their garden ready for planting. (See Page 5)

The Chosen

In the fall, we will begin showing an episode of The Chosen weekly. This will ensure people vacationing in the summer do not miss any of the show. We will begin with the first episode and continue with each episode for all released seasons. Volunteers are being sought for the video crew. The first showing will include a free hot dog dinner.



Giving

M&E will sponsor a child to attend 4-H Camp and we will contribute \$50.00 to the May Mission Focus, Hands across Mathews, and send \$100.00 to UMCOR for their work in the Middle East and in the Ukraine.

Focus for June

The Mission focus this month will be *United Methodist Family Services (UMFS)*. The Business focus is the Rescue Squad and Gloria Fulcher will be surprising them with something tasty along with a thank you card from our congregation to let them know how much we value their services to our community.

Linda Dalgety
M & E Chair

Hands Across Mathews Special Request

Recently a food bank in Portsmouth, a source of meats, has closed and there is a limited amount of protein foods from other sources.

Please consider purchasing some extra **cans of potted meat, tuna fish, can chicken or beans** for donation to the *HAM* food box.

You can find our donation boxes in the breezeway between the sanctuary & the fellowship hall. Personal care products are also always welcome as these are not covered by special food programs.

Thank you for supporting those in need!

2024 Graduates

Graduates will be presented a gift Bible or a book of daily scripture by the Paul Townsend Memorial Sunday School Class on Sunday, June 4th.

Cody James Arnold

Cody is the grandson of Joe and Martha Arnold and his parents are James and Sherri Arnold. Cody will graduate in June from Bergen Catholic High school in Oradell, NJ

Cody plans to pursue a three year program in the Junior North American Hockey league before attending college. He has been a goalie for the team since he was 8 years old. Playing last year in New York, he was ranked as the second best goalie in the entire US league for his age group.

In addition to his hockey accomplishments, he has maintained a GPA above a 4.0 throughout his high school years while taking many AP classes. As he progresses in his hockey career, he hopes to be offered a scholarship by one of the colleges of his choice so that he can resume his academics while pursuing his dream of becoming a NHL player.



*For surely I know the plans I have for you,
says the Lord, plans for your welfare
and not for harm, to give you
a future with hope.
Jeremiah 29:11 NRSV*

Timothy David Stewart Dehoux

Timmy is the grandson of Betty and Jimmy Stewart and his parents are Robin and Paul Dehoux. Timmy will graduate with honors from Mathews High school.

Timmy is a Member of the Beta Club and National Honor Society. He played Varsity Baseball for 4 years and also played JV and Varsity Football.

Timmy is a member of Gwynn's Island Church of the Nazarene, also a member of the Mathews Volunteer Fire Department, having served for the past 2 years.

Timmy plans to go into the Electric Power Generation Field with plans to work at Amazon Web Services.



Sarah May Dunn

Sarah is the granddaughter of Linda Dalgety and her parents are Kelsey Dunn and Kevin Bauer. She graduated from Leonardtown High school in Leonardtown, MD on May 30th.

Sarah plans to attend West Virginia University and is majoring in Business/Finance with the idea of eventually owning her own bookshop/café.



2024 Graduates Cont.

Brandon Roberts Fry

Brandon graduated cum laude from James Madison University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Graphic Design. He is the son to Mark and Kendall Fry and the grandson of Marcia Fry and the late Pete Fry.

Brandon has accepted a position with a corporation in Alexandria.



"I will reach for the stars no matter how hard it seems, and fly like a bird with the knowledge this journey brings."

Semetra C. Vanison

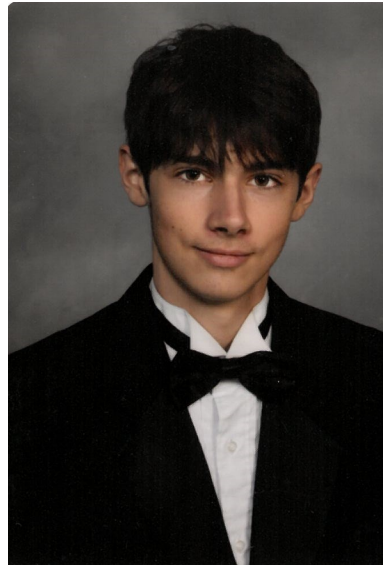
Lieutenant Colonel Trey Guy

Lieutenant Colonel Trey Guy will graduate from the U.S. Army War College in June with a M.S. in Strategic Studies. LTC Guy graduated in 2003 from the Virginia Military Institute with a B.A. in International Relations and was commissioned as an Air Defense Artillery Officer. Across his 20-year career, he has served and commanded across a variety of tactical Army units in both combat and training. LTC Guy graduated with an M.A. in Leadership from the University of Texas at El Paso in 2007.

Trey is the grandson of Merle Guy. He is married to the former Candace Lindsley of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and they have four wonderful children: Madi Grace 13, Quaide 12, Caerwyn 7, and Elsie 5.



Harrison "Shane" Hudgins



Harrison "Shane" Hudgins of Williamsburg, VA graduated from Williamsburg Christian Academy on May 18th. Shane is the son to Troy and Jenny Hudgins, also of Williamsburg. His grandparents are Bobby and Phyllis Hudgins, of Mathews, and Madeline Woodruff and the late Gilbert Crist of Williamsburg.

Shane will attend Virginia Peninsula Community College in the Fall, with a focus in computer science and information technology. Shane has volunteered, with delivering meals to residents, through a local non-profit food bank and has worked part-time with TEC, learning skills in the HYAC industry. In Shane's spare time, he enjoys computer programming, and spending time with family and friends.



2024 Graduates Cont.

Norfleet "Nori" T'Pol Lewis



Norfleet is a graduate with honors from Mathews High school. Her parents are Jonathan and Amanda Lewis and her grandparents are Mark and Brenda Lewis.

Norfleet plans to attend Bennington college in Vermont and major in Literature.



Emily Grace Mortimer



Emily's parents are Randy and Kathy Mortimer and her grandmother is Grace Mortimer.

Emily just graduated from UVA with a Masters Degree in Urban Planning and is currently looking for a job in Washington or another large city.



Marcy Jean Mortimer

Marcy's parents are Scott and Teresa Mortimer and her grandmother is Grace Mortimer. She will graduate from Trinity Episcopal school in Richmond and plans to study Chemistry as well as swim at Washington & Lee University in Lexington in the Fall.



Sarah Grace Moughon



Sarah's parents are Melissa and Richard Moughon, and her grandmother is Judy Moughon. Sarah is graduating with honors from Mathews High school in the top 5 members of her class, ranked 5/63.

Sarah is a part of the national Beta Club, a member of the National Honors Society as well as Phi Theta Kappa honors society.

Sarah plans to attend Elon University in the Fall, majoring in Finance, with 2 minors in Entrepreneurship and Environmental & Sustainability studies. She is a part of a selective program at Elon University called the *Innovation Scholars*, where, along with other students she will work to create solutions to real world problems.



2024 Graduates Cont.

Lillian Marie Padgett

Lily is the daughter of Thomas Padgett and Wendy McDonald.

Lily graduated on May 18th from Northumberland High school (a year early!). She plans to attend Rappahannock Community college to pursue a nursing degree and later transfer to VCU to specialize in Trauma care nursing while working in one of their hospitals.



Davis Soles Small

Davis is the son to Craig Small and Katherine Davis Small. His grandparents are Billy and Charlene Small and Frank and Joice Davis (deceased). His Great grandmother is Florence Rainier.

Davis will graduate from Mathews High school and plans to attend Rappahannock Community college in the Fall with the intent to transfer to a 4 year college after a couple of years.

Davis plans to study Library Science or History Education.



Lisa Anne Zerbe

Lisa is the daughter of Clint and Audrey Zerbe and is the granddaughter of Nancy Jagger and the late Jerry Jagger.

Lisa is graduating from Mathews High school and plans to attend a college in the Fall where she will pursue a career as a Veterinary Assistant.



Congratulations to all 2024 Graduates!

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<h1>June 2024</h1>						1
2 Worship, 9:15 am Sunday school, 10:15 am Mathews High School Baccalaureate 2:00 pm	3	4	5 Central Village Homemakers 9:00 am - 1:00 pm	6 Choir 7:00 pm	7	8
<p style="text-align: center;">Mathews High school Baccalaureate Service June 2 at 2:00 pm Mathews Baptist church, Hudgins <i>Sponsored by Mathews County Christian Ministerial Association</i></p>						
9 Graduation Sunday Worship, 9:15 am Hospitality Fellowship Sunday school, 10:15 am	10 Finance 8:30 am	11	12	13 Paul Townsend Mem. class Lunch 12:00 noon Choir 7:00 pm	14 UM Men Art sale Set -up 6:00 pm	15 Art Sale UMM & CVH UMW Bake sale 7:00 am - 2:00 pm
16 Worship, 9:15 am Sunday school, 10:15 am Happy Father's Day	17	18 Trustees 9:00 am	19 Mission and Evangelism 10:00 am	20	<p>Annual Conference Hampton, VA <<20—22 >></p>	
23 Worship, 9:15 am Sunday school, 10:15 am	24 Central Chimes Submissions & Reports Due	25	26 Administrative Council 7:00 pm	27	28 UMW 3 Rivers Healthy Families at Port Fun	29
30 Worship, 9:15 am Sunday school, 10:15 am				<p>All meeting times & dates are subject to change. If in doubt, contact the committee chair.</p>		

Birthdays

Frances Ellis	6/13
Nancy Jagger	6/15
John Choi	6/27
Danny Hogge	6/27
Betty Lewis	7/1

Anniversaries

Judy & Jennings Haynes	2
Elma & Allen Moughon	5
Phyllis & Bobby Hudgins	13
Tom & Dale Robinson	17

